
FUNCTIONAL DESCRIPTION OF HQAS LEVELS

July 21, 2005

Level V is a master level interpreter-translator. This interpreter can function expressively and receptively in virtually all situations. A person holding a Level V credential should be pursuing national certification. While no restrictions are indicated, this interpreter demonstrates professional judgement in accepting assignments.

HQAS V+H is an interpreter-translator who satisfactorily met the requirements for local Hawaii language competency in addition to the requirements defined for the Level V credential.

(Expires 5 years after the date of issue.)

Level IV is an accomplished interpreter-translator. This interpreter can function expressively and receptively in most complex and technical situations. A Level IV interpreter may accept assignments for one-on-one and group sessions, as well as workshops and platform assignments. This interpreter is qualified for most medical and dental appointments, and limited legal interpreting, including client/lawyer meetings, and traffic or small claims court.

A Level IV interpreter should be pursuing continuing professional education or national certification. A Level IV interpreter should avoid critical medical situations, criminal court and civil court jury trials.

HQAS IV+H is an interpreter-translator who satisfactorily met the requirements for local Hawaii language competency in addition to the requirements defined for the Level IV credential.

(Expires 5 years after the date of issue.)

Level III is an intermediate level interpreter-translator. Level III is the lowest level receiving a credential as a qualified interpreter. This interpreter may accept assignments for many group sessions and workshops and most one-on-one situations. A Level III interpreter should be actively involved in professional development efforts.

An interpreter holding a Level III credential should not accept assignments for legal, mental health, or critical medical situations.

HQAS III+H is an interpreter-translator who satisfactorily met the requirements for local Hawaii language competency in addition to the requirements defined for the Level III credential.

(Expires 2 years after the date of issue.)

Level II is an entry-level communication assistant. The Level II communication assistant will be able to interpret during orientation sessions and basic tutoring sessions. A Level II communication assistant may accept assignments where communication can be interpreted consecutively in one on one situations, limited group sessions and workshops; and may accept limited platform assignments when accompanied and supervised by a qualified mentor.

A person holding a Level II credential should not accept assignments for legal, mental health, medical, employment interviews or critical situations of any nature.

HQAS II+H is an entry-level communication assistant who satisfactorily met the requirements for local Hawaii language competency in addition to the requirements defined for the Level II credential.

(Expires 2 years after the date of issue.)

Level I is a beginner level candidate. A Level I candidate is not considered qualified for professional assignments. This candidate may provide limited interpreting in low risk situations as an unpaid apprentice when accompanied by a qualified mentor. Further professional development is required prior to reevaluation.

HQAS I+H is a beginner level candidate who satisfactorily met the requirements for local Hawaii language competency.

(No credential is issued.)